GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5288
ANSWERED ON:14.05.2007
LOSS DUE TO PARTHENIUM
Moghe Shri Krishna Murari

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether various types of weeds including parthenium are causing loss of Rs.20 crores hourly in the country;

(b) if so, the remedial efforts being made by the Government in this regard;

(c) whether any proposal has been received from the National Institute for Weed Science, Jabalpur for imparting training to the officers to destroy the weed; and

(d) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA)

(a): The average crop losses due to various types of weeds including Parthenium has been estimated to be around 15-20% of the crop production, depending on agro-climatic conditions.

(b): The following efforts are being made by the Government to check the weed infestation in various crops in the country:-

(i) Educating the farmers about cultural, mechanical and chemical methods of weed control through different Government extension agencies.

(ii) Ensuring timely availability of quality herbicides for the control of weeds in all the States/UTs.

(iii) Providing basic and strategic weed management technologies, through National Research Centre for Weed Science at Jabalpur.

(iv) 22 Centres under All India Coordinated Research Project on Weed Control in different State Agricultural Universities provide location specific solutions for weed problems in different states.

(c) & (d): No, Sir. However, National Research Centre for Weed Science (NRCWS), Jabalpur regularly impart trainings on limited scale to the scientists, state Government officials, progressive farmers, NGOs etc. as part of its research extension activities. The Centre has also been regularly organizing Parthenium Awareness Week throughout the country and providing training to make people aware of the harmful effects of this weed and ways to manage it, during the last three years. NRCWS, Jabalpur has also implemented a project on management of parthenium through Integrated approach, under the support programme of the Department of Biotechnology, Government of India.